

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 193607

72

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 IO-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 TRSE-00

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S/S - MR. GAMMON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T STATE 193607

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, CA, LA, US

SUBJECT:FUTURE ROLE OF THE ICC IN LAOS

REF: VIENTIANE 6641

1. CANADIAN EMBOFF CALLED ON DEPT SEPTEMBER 27 TO PRESENT
GOC POSITION ON CANADA'S CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN ICC/
LAOS. EMBOFF SAID HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO SAY THAT GOC WOULD
MAKE NO QTE FINAL DECISION UNQTE UNTIL QTE FORMAL INVITATION
UNQTE TO CONTINUE WAS RECEIVED. HE SAID GOC HAD UNOFFICIAL
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 193607

TEXT OF PROTOCOL AND AGREEMENT, BUT THAT GOC WAITING FOR

QTE OFFICIAL UNQTE TEXTS (WHICH HE PRESUMED WOULD BE GIVEN ICC MEMBERS) IN ORDER TO STUDY CANADA'S QTE LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES UNQTE UNDER GENEVA ACCORDS. EVEN THEN, EMBOFF NOTED, AFFIRMATIVE DECISION WOULD DEPEND ON WHETHER QTE CLEAR AND DETAILED OUTLINE UNQTE OF ICC'S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES WAS RECEIVED. EMBOFF MADE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO GOC REQUIREMENT THAT LAO PARTIES WOULD HAVE TO MAKE DEFINITE STAFFING PROPOSAL, GIVING NUMBER OF PERSONNEL REQUIRED FOR ICC TO PLAY ITS ROLE IN IMPLEMENTING VIENTIANE AGREEMENT.

2. DEPTOFFS REITERATED IMPORTANCE USG PLACES ON CANADA'S CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN ICC AND NOTED THAT LAOS WAS QTE BRIGHT SPOT UNQTE IN INDOCHINA, WITH REAL CHANCE OF SUCCESS IN PRESERVING PEACE. DEPTOFFS ADDED THAT USG AWARE OF GOC STUDY OF ICC QUESTION AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS COULD DISCUSS QUESTION FURTHER BEFORE ANY FINAL DECISION MADE BY GOC. EMBOFF RESPONDED THAT HE THOUGHT THAT CONSTRUCTIVE PROCEDURE. IN RESPONSE TO STATEMENT THAT INDIA HAD SHOWN POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD PARTICIPATION IN NEWLY REVIVED ICC WITH STRENGTHENED ROLE, EMBOFF SAID THAT GOC WOULD TAKE ATTITUDES OF OTHER ICC MEMBERS INTO ACCOUNT IN MAKING DECISION. HE ADDED THAT APPROACH SIMILAR TO THAT MADE TO DEPT TODAY WAS BEING MADE TO GENEVA CO-CHAIRMEN UK AND USSR.

3. DEPT WILL ALSO PRESENT USG VIEWS TO CANADIAN AMBASSADOR AND TRY TO OBTAIN ASSURANCES THAT FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WILL BE HELD BEFORE GOC MAKES DECISION.

4. EMBASSY SHOULD TAKE FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO URGE SOUVANNA TO MAKE STRONG REPRESENTATION TO CANADIANS, EMPHASIZING THAT IN PRESENT LAO ENVIRONMENT, CHANCES FOR SUCCESSFUL ROLE OF ICC/LAOS GOOD. POSITIVE ASSURANCES TO CANADIANS FROM LAO THAT ICC HAS IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY WOULD BE USEFUL.

5. MEANWHILE, DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ANALYSIS OF ROLE OF ICC/LAOS AS MODIFIED BY AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOL IN ORDER DETERMINE WHETHER ROLE CAN BE MORE THAN THE
SECRET

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PAGE 03 STATE 193607

SYMBOLIC ONE WHICH WE AGREE IS IMPORTANT. PRESUMABLY GOC EXPERIENCING DOMESTIC PRESSURES TO MINIMIZE INVOLVEMENT IN SEA AND WILL NEED ASSURANCES THAT CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN ICC CAN HAVE POSITIVE EFFECT IN LAOS. KISSINGER

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